

[20 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Continuance of RCTDC at Rajahmundry and Narsapur

2563. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government to give sanction for continuance of Regional Coir Training and Development Centre at Rajahmundry and Narsapur;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has also requested the Central Government to give sanction to Demonstration-cum-Production Centre in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Central Government have agreed to continuance of both these Centres; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (d) According to information available, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested continuance of Regional Coir Training and Development Centre under the Coir Board. However, the State Government would consider taking over the demonstration-cum-production centre at Narsapur without its staff.

(e) and (f) The RCT & DC Rajahmundry and DCPC Narsapur in Andhra Pradesh were set up by the Coir Board on an agency basis on behalf of the State of Andhra Pradesh in 1984 and 1991 respectively on the condition that the RCT & DC will be transferred to the State Government on or before the end of 6th Plan period and the DCPC on completion of 5 years. The State Government has been advised to take over these two centres failing which it has been decided to close them down and hand over the infrastructure to the State Government.

FDI in films and advertisement

2564. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to allow 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in films and advertisements;

- (b) if so, the details, such as terms and conditions etc. thereof; and
(c) in what manner it is proposed to ensure that back door entry of investment by mafia groups settled abroad does not take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (c) The present policy permits upto 74% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in advertisement and upto 100% FDI in film industry. Government constantly reviews the role of foreign investment with the objective of further refining it and enhancing India's attractiveness as an investment destination and also to supplement the domestic investment as per sector specific requirements. Any further liberalisation in the sector specific FDI policy is formulated in consultation with and based on the recommendation of the concerned administrative ministries.

FDI in retail trading

2565. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

- Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**
- (a) whether Government are considering a proposal to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in retail trading;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) whether Government have received any such proposal from foreign companies; and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMARABDULLAH): (a) No, Sir.
(b) Does not arise.
(c) Proposals for FDI are received from various foreign/NRI companies from time to time and are decided in accordance with the policy on the subject.

Pork processing project at Medzifema, Nagaland

2566. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state: